

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 13. (Canceled)
14. (Previously Presented) A method to secure a bone fracture or osteotomy with a bioabsorbable band system, comprising:
 - providing a bioabsorbable band system, comprising:
 - a bioabsorbable band having a first end and a second end;
 - a first locking system comprising at least one bioabsorbable fastener; and
 - a second locking system comprising at least one bioabsorbable fastener;
 - locking the first end of the band to a surface of a bone with the first locking system;
 - wrapping the second end of the band around side edges of the bone;
 - tightening the band to secure both sides of the bone fracture together; and
 - locking the second end of the band to a surface of the bone.
15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein locking the first end of the band further comprises drilling at least one hole through the first end of the band into the bone, and inserting a fastener in said hole.
16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein locking the second end of the band further comprises drilling at least one hole through the second end of the band and into the bone, and inserting a fastener in said hole.

Appl. No. 10/657,087
Amdt. dated January 29, 2009
Reply to Office action of January 6, 2009

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein drilling further comprises drilling the hole through the first end of the band.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein wrapping further comprises inserting a needle attached to the second end of the band through a tissue to be drawn together with the bone.